

Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

Business Assistance and Entrepreneurship

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov, 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711.

Veteran Owned Small Business and Maryland State Procurement

- Effective October 1, 2015, each Maryland state agency must structure its procurement procedures to try to achieve an overall minimum of 1% of its total dollar value of procurement contracts to be made up directly or indirectly from Veteran-owned small businesses. See the [Board of Public Works](#) for more information.
- To qualify, Veteran-owned businesses must be verified by the Center for Validation and Evaluation of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. For more information on verification the [VA Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization](#).
- Once your business is verified by Center for Validation and Evaluation, you should register your business on eMaryland Marketplace, the State of Maryland's internet-based procurement system. Registration is free and is available at [eMaryland Marketplace](#). The eMarylandMarketplace help line is 410-767-1492.
- Once your business is registered on eMaryland Marketplace, you will have access to all State, county and municipal procurement notices. Within eMaryland Marketplace, you can monitor procurement notices that include Veteran-owned small business goals. Those notices will include information on the date/time/location of the prebid conference. It is a good idea to attend prebid conferences to network with prime contractors who may be looking for qualified Veteran businesses to include in their bids.

Boots to Business – U.S. Small Business Administration

E-mail: boots-to-business@sba.gov
www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ovbd/resources/160511

202-205-8381 (V)

Entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP). The curriculum continuum includes steps for evaluating business concepts, the foundational knowledge required to develop a business plan and information on SBA resources available to help access start-up capital and additional technical assistance. Active duty military members (and their partners / spouses) separating from service may elect to participate in the entrepreneurship training track. There are no registration fees or tuition associated with the program.

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV)

Chiara Maggiore-Alkhateeb, EBV National Program Coordinator
Syracuse University
E-mail: jvmfeducation@syr.edu
<http://ebv.vets.syr.edu/>

315-443-6898 (V)

National educational program providing training in entrepreneurship and small business management, to post-9/11 Veterans with a service-connected disability, including National Guard and Reserve, and their family members. EBV is a program specifically for Veterans and is designed to develop competencies in the many steps and activities associated with creating and sustaining an entrepreneurial venture. The program is offered by eight business schools across the U.S. This program is entirely without any cost to the Veteran. Operated by Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University.

Military Personnel and Veteran-Owned Small Business No-Interest Loan Program – Maryland Department of Commerce

Celester A. Hall, Program Manager, Office of Finance Programs

410-767-6356 (V)

E-mail: les.hall@maryland.gov

<http://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/mpvsblp>

The Department of Commerce in consultation with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs provides no interest loans of up to \$50,000, from one to eight years, for businesses owned by military reservists, veterans, National Guard personnel and for small businesses that employ or are owned by such persons. No interest loans range from \$1,000 to \$50,000. Loan maturity will be from one to eight years. The loan repayment period usually will not exceed the useful life expectancy of the equipment to be purchased.

Eligible applicants include veteran-owned small businesses, businesses owned by military reservists and National Guard members called to active duty, and small businesses, with fewer than 50 employees that employ them.

For reservists or National Guard members called to active duty, Program funds must be used for payment of identifiable costs of the business, including general business expenses, which result from the call to active duty. The loan may be made at any time from the date of the call to active duty through the period ending six months after the end of the individual's active duty.

For service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by service-disabled veterans, and businesses employing service-disabled veterans, the purpose of the Program is to assist with the cost of making the home, motor vehicle, or place of employment of a service-disabled veteran accessible to individuals with disabilities, and to defray other necessary expenses

Montgomery County Chamber Community Foundation (MCCCF) Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP)

Barbara Ashe, President, MCCCF, and VIP National Director

301-738-0015 x 208 (V)

E-mail: bashe@mcccmd.com

<https://www.mcccmd.com/veteran-institute-for-procurement.html>

Free training program for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB) and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSB). The Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP) offers 3 programs that focus on: accelerating growth with market-based training across more than 20 topic areas; avoiding business land mines while reducing stakeholder risks; and building relationships with primes, government officials, and networks of national teaming partners. VIP classes are open to Veteran-owned businesses nationwide, and open to one executive from each veteran-owned business enrolled. Class size is limited to 50 individuals. MCCCF funds VIP Programs through a public-private partnership made up of a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). It is also supported by the Grantor for MD, and by private sponsorships.

National Center for Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP)

Patty A. Brown, Director, Program Management

301-738-0015 (V)

E-mail: pbrown@mcccmd.com

www.nationalvip.org

The Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP) is an educational training program for owners, principals and C-level executives of Veteran-owned businesses. The VIP is a 27-hour, 3-day comprehensive certification program instructed by professional service experts, government officials, and agency representatives. VIP GROW is designed for Veteran-owned businesses to increase their ability to win government contracts by establishing best business practices. VIP START is designed for veteran owned businesses that want to enter or expand their business growth into the federal marketplace through best business practices. VIP INTERNATIONAL is designed for veteran owned small businesses that want to enter and/or expand their federal and commercial contracting opportunities overseas. The National Center for VIP is located 11 miles from the White House at The Bolger Center Hotel and Conference Center. VIP classes are offered to one executive from each of the enrolled veteran-owned small businesses. Class size is limited to 50 companies. Funded entirely by Montgomery County Chamber Community Foundation, funded through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration partners, and VIP sponsors, the program is offered at no cost to participants, except transportation. VIP enrollment is open to eligible veteran-owned small businesses nationwide.

Office of Veterans Business Development – U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Washington Office Center
409 3rd Street, S.W. Suite 5700
Washington, DC 20416
www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ovbd

202-205-6773 (V)

Offers a number of programs and services to support and empower aspiring and existing Veteran entrepreneurs and military spouses. SBA provides training and mentorship, access to capital, preparation for opportunities in federal procurement, and cultivation of connections within commercial supply chains and disaster relief assistance. Each year, SBA serves over 200,000 Veterans, service-disabled veterans and military spouses across the United States and at military installations around the globe. Serving Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC, and West Virginia.

Project Opportunity

Joe Giordano, Founder
E-mail: Joe.giordano@project-opportunity.com
www.project-opportunity.com

410 860 6664 (Office)
443-783-0203 (Cell)

A free entrepreneurship training program designed solely for Veterans, active duty, reserve personnel and military spouses who want to start their own business or expand their current small business. Offer entrepreneur training courses and free business counseling and coaching for our training program graduates. Offer professional development workshops and seminars for all veteran small business owners, and referrals to other agencies and organizations that can assist in the success of the veteran small business population within Maryland.

University of Maryland Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

Maryland Innovation Center
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 500
Columbia, MD 21046
E-mail: scolella@umd.edu

301-955-6328 (V)

The Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) program is designed to provide entrepreneurial development services such as business training, counseling and resource partner referrals to transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard & Reserve members and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business. The SBA has 22 organizations participating in this cooperative agreement and serving as Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC). Serving Washington, D.C., Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania.

V-WISE (Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship)

Chiara Maggiore-Alkhateeb, Program Coordinator
E-mail: chmaggio@syr.edu
<http://whitman.syr.edu/vwise/>

315-443-6898 (V)

Enables women Veterans to find their passion and to learn the business-savvy skills to turn their ideas of businesses into growth ventures. Participants complete a 15-day online learning experience and attend a three-day training. Graduates are connected to ongoing support and community-building opportunities focused on small business creation and growth. Open to all female Veterans, active duty female service members and female partners/spouses of active duty service members and Veterans. Initiative operated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University.

Veterans Business Services (VBS)

www.veteranownedbusiness.com

VBS network uses a peer-to peer approach to develop custom entrepreneurial strategies for each Service-Disabled Veteran that will leverage community, philanthropic, government, business and educational resources.

Veteran Entrepreneur Portal – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov/osdbu/entrepreneur/

The Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP) is designed to save Veterans time with direct access to the resources necessary to guide every step of entrepreneurship. VEP makes it easier for small businesses to access federal services, regardless of its source—and quickly connects Veteran entrepreneurs to relevant 'best-practices' and information.

VetFran

1900 K Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20006
E-mail: vetfran@franchise.org
www.vetfran.com

202-662-0781 (V)

Educate both veterans and franchisors about the unique match between the skills and aptitude of entrepreneurial veterans and the demands and opportunities of being a franchisee. facilitate the transition of veterans into franchising by encouraging franchisors to offer discounts and incentives to veterans on the one hand, and to assemble resources, tools and a database of franchising opportunities for veterans on the other.